

REMARKS

This application is a U.S. national phase application, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §371, of PCT international application Ser. No. PCT/US04/036848 filed November 5, 2004, designating the United States and published in English on May 26, 2005 as publication WO 2005/046587 A2, which claims priority to U.S. provisional applications Ser. No. 60/518,366, filed November 8, 2003, and Ser. No. 60/617,166, filed October 8, 2004. Page 1 of the specification has been amended to reflect this information.

Claims 1-101 were filed in the aforementioned PCT application. Claims 2, 10, 12-15, 21, 25, 27, 28, 31, 47, 48, 56, 57, 77, 78, 80, 81, 88, 98 and 101 have been amended and claims 3-9, 11, 16-20, 22-24, 26, 29, 30, 32-39, 43, 44, 49-55, 58-76, 87, 89-95, 97 and 100 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 10, 12-15, 21, 25, 27, 28, 31, 40, 42, 45, 46, 47, 48, 56, 57, 77-86, 88, 96, 98, 99 and 101 will be pending in the instant application upon entry of the amendments presented herein.

Cancellation and amendment of the claims were done solely to remove multiple claim dependencies in order to reduce the extra claim fees, to correct typographical errors and/or to otherwise expedite prosecution of the application. No new matter has been added. Applicant hereby reserves to pursue the claims as originally filed in this or one or more subsequent patent applications.

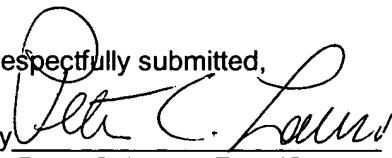
Applicants respectfully request early examination on the merits and allowance of the application with all claims presented herein. If a telephone conversation with Applicants' attorney would be helpful in expediting prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

By


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